

Grammar and Usage Rubric Grades 3-4

In their writing, students will apply the Standard English conventions defined in the 2014 Indiana Academic Standards for their grade and all previous grades.

Score	Does writing exhibit a good command of language skills?
4	<p><i>In a Score Point 4 paper, there are no errors that impair the flow of communication. Errors that appear will generally be of the first-draft variety; they have a minor impact on the overall communication.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Are there few or no errors in beginning capitalization? Are there few or no errors in capitalization of proper nouns? Are there few or no errors in ending punctuation? Are there few or no errors in grade-level appropriate comma and apostrophe use? Are there few or no errors in verb usage? Are there few or no errors in the spelling of grade-level-appropriate words? Does writing have few or no run-on sentences or sentence fragments?
	Does writing exhibit an adequate command of language skills?
3	<p><i>In a Score Point 3 paper, errors are occasional but do not impede the flow of communication; the writer's meaning is not seriously obscured by language errors.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is most beginning capitalization correct? Are most proper nouns capitalized correctly? Do most sentences end with correct punctuation? Do most sentences have grade-level appropriate comma and apostrophe use? Do most sentences have correct verb usage? Are most grade-level-appropriate words spelled correctly? Writing may have run-on sentences or sentence fragments.
	Does writing exhibit a minimal command of language skills?
2	<p><i>In a Score Point 2 paper, errors are generally frequent and may cause the reader to stop and reread part of the writing. While some aspects of the writing may be more consistently correct than others, the existing errors do impair communication. With a little extra effort on the reader's part, it is still possible to discern most, if not all, of what the writer is trying to communicate.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is some beginning capitalization correct? Are some proper nouns capitalized correctly? Do some sentences end with correct punctuation? Do some sentences have grade-level appropriate comma and apostrophe use? Do some sentences have correct verb usage? Are some grade-level-appropriate words spelled correctly? Writing may have run-on sentences or sentence fragments.
	Does writing exhibit a less than minimal command of language skills?
1	<p><i>In a Score Point 1 paper, errors are serious and numerous; they cause the reader to struggle to discern the writer's meaning. Errors are frequently of a wide variety. There may be sections where it is impossible to ascertain what the writer is attempting to communicate.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Are there many errors in beginning capitalization? Does writing have little or no evidence of capitalization of proper nouns? Is end punctuation missing or incorrect? Are there many errors in grade-level appropriate comma and apostrophe use? Are there many errors in verb usage? Are there many errors in the spelling of grade-level-appropriate words? Are there run-on sentences or sentence fragments?

NOTE: The elements of this rubric are applied holistically; no element is intended to supersede any other element. The variety and proportion of errors in relation to the length of the writing sample are considered. A very brief paper consisting of two or three sentences may receive no more than 2 score points.